

The project aims at demonstrating removal of barriers in conversion of biomass to energy.

Formation of National Bio-Diesel Policy

1260. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that although Jatropha has been on the fringes of the National consciousness, promising to take care of the nation's fuel worries, Government have been slow in formulating the long overdue National Bio-diesel Policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as there is no concrete national plan, the plants are running on imported vegetable oil instead of homegrown low maintenance Jatropha; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to formulate the National Bio diesel Policy at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) A Draft National Policy on Bio-fuels, which also includes bio-diesel from Jatropha and other non-edible oil bearing plants, has been prepared. The Ministry of Rural Development have taken up a national Mission on Bio-diesel with focus on large scale plantation of Jatropha curcas and Pongamia pinnata on forest and non-forest waste lands. Under this National Mission, the Ministry of Rural Development has processed the proposal for demonstration of Jatropha and Pongamia in 3 lakh hectares of land with the Expenditure Finance Committee of the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry of Rural Development have provided financial assistance of Rs. 49 crores to nine States for raising Jatropha nurseries.

Schemes for electrification of villages in forest area

†1261. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes made by Government for the electrification of villages situated in inaccessible and forest areas;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that the schemes regarding the above sent by the State Governments are pending with Governments for sanction;

(c) the State-wise details of pending schemes, especially the schemes sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh and by when they are likely to be sanctioned;

(d) whether Government will consider to make a law regarding the compulsory use of solar heating system in India also, on the lines of Government of Israel;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the State-wise details of the achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) A Programme for village electrification using renewable energy sources is being implemented by the Ministry in those remote and inaccessible villages/hamlets, where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective. A Central Financial Assistance of upto 90% of the cost of renewable energy systems installed in these villages, subject to pre-specified maximum amounts is provided. In addition, the Ministry has also taken up test projects on Village Energy Security in remote villages and hamlets that are not likely to be electrified through conventional means with emphasis on forest fringe and tribal villages.

(b) and (c) Receipt of proposals from the States and their sanctions by the Ministry is a continuous process. Proposals are sanctioned once they are complete in all respects and are in conformity with the provisions of the respective programme, subject to the budget provisions. The Ministry has so far sanctioned support for electrification of 5317 unelectrified villages in 23 States. Out of proposals for electrification of 185 villages submitted by Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam during the period of 2003-04 to 2005-06, the Ministry sanctioned financial support for electrification of 48 villages. From 2005-06 onwards, it has been decided to provide financial support to only those villages which are verified by the Rural electrification Corporation (REC) for unfeasibility of electrification through grid connectivity. During 2005-06, financial support for electrification of 50 more Rural Electrification Corporation identified villages was sanctioned. The remaining villages have either not been confirmed as remote by REC or have already been electrified through conventional means. In addition, out of the 84 test

projects sanctioned in 12 States as test projects on Village Energy Security, 15 are in Madhya Pradesh.

(d) and (e) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(f) A total of around 1.5 million square metres of solar collector area has so far been installed for water heating in the country. This includes domestic solar water heaters and installations in institutions, industry and commercial establishments. Installations have been higher in States where hot water is required for a greater part of the year. Karnataka leads in installation of solar water heating systems followed by Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. These are also becoming popular in other States such as Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Punjab and Haryana.

Installation of Power Co-Generation Projects

1262. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the plans his Ministry has for installation of co-generation projects based on biomass and industrial wastes;

(b) whether it is a fact that pulp and paper, textile mills, rice mills, solvent extration units have a potential of developing 15,000 MW of power co-generation; and

(c) if so, in what manner the Ministry is planning to fully utilize these for power production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing Programmes on Bio-mass Energy & Co-generation and Recovery of Energy/Power Generation from Industrial and Commercial Wastes and Effluents for promoting the setting up of co-generation projects based on bagasse, other bio-mass and industrial wastes.

(b) A potential of about 15,000 MW of generation of power through co-generation has been estimated in various core industries such as sugar